

# Knowledge-Based Development Influences on Fatherhood in Qatar

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## Research Question

How fatherhood has been influenced by the knowledge based development in Qatar?

## Hypothesis

In the last 20 years Qatar has changed and developed in many aspects economic, Education, social, etc). Including to that drastic changes to the education system (Al Thani,2017).

These changes influenced some fathers decision making especially when it becomes related to their children's future career and the way of raising them.

## Introduction

**Knowledge based development:** knowledge-based development means that Qatar is seeking to be a country with dependence on knowledge, information and high skill levels, and people should be ready to succeed in that to help the economy to grow and be a part of it.

**Fatherhood:** The qualities or spirit of a father in the child's life. Father has been considered as the main role of the family throughout being engaged in his family and taking charge of his responsibilities. Qatari fathers perceive their main responsibilities towards their children as a valuable role they are responsible to perform and to be the one who provide to their children, as studies show that if fathers were more involved in their children's life, this will help their children to develop their skills and abilities in different aspects (Gross, G.2014).

The main aim of this research is to determine how fatherhood role in Qatar has changed from it was before Qatar has changed its path to become a knowledge based economy.

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## Qatar Before and After Knowledge Based Development

### Qatar Before knowledge based development:

From the economic aspect, Qatar has relied on foreign workers. And in the education side, Qatar had only established governmental schools. And from social aspect, Qatar before wasn't as accepting to various cultures as it is now.

### Qatar After knowledge based development:

From the economic aspect, Qatar would rely more on Qatari people inside Qatar, rather than relying on foreign workforce. (Doha News, 2018). And in the education side, universities and school systems became supportive to the knowledge based development concept and encourage students to have abilities that makes them able to face future challenges as an example establishing Qatar Foundation. and from the social aspect, Qatar is seeking to achieve social development by achieving high ethical standards for the individual which makes the individual more integrated with the community environment (Doha News, 2018).

## Fatherhood in Qatar Before and After Knowledge Based Development

### Fatherhood in Qatar Before knowledge based development:

- **Workplace**

Workplaces was more limited than what we see know.They either become teachers, engineers or doctors.

- **Women**

Before, young qatari girls education wasn't highly focused on because they have thought of that a women place is her house.And the role of a women should be taking care of children and being a housewife.Girls were usually getting married at a young age some of them drop out of middle school and get married, some of them have their university degree but the majority of them didn't take university education as a necessary thing because they will get married and their husband will be the house provider financially. Women tend to become teachers and work in a place that are seperated from men.

- **Importance of education**

Before, Education was not as important as it is nowadays. Fathers before used to think that education for boys is not necessary as work, most boys were working at young age because making money is much more important than education. Also, fathers used to think that their daughters don't have to study or complete and the most important thing was for them to get married and care about their house.

- **Parenting and raising children style**

The main focus of raising a qatari child in Qatar is mainly his religion and to be a good citizens.And besides that to be raised among his family and follow his traditions and cultures.In the way they dress , or what major would they would choose, or even when it comes to travelling abroad when it comes to daughters.Culturally Its not accepted according to Qatari culture.

### Fatherhood in Qatar After knowledge based development:

- **Workplace**

Nowadays, fathers seek for higher salary jobs, and jobs are now more varied than they were before. In addition, fathers now care about their degree at work to make sure they get higher salaries to fulfill their family needs.

- **Women**

Fathers became more accepted to the idea of his daughter working outside her home.Today the number of women in work and education is greater than it was two decades ago.(Merhaba,2017)

- **importance of education**

Nowadays, Fathers care about their children's education and make sure they enroll in best schools and best universities and support them to complete their education whatever the degree they wish to get. Furthermore, education has become so important for fathers to assure to their children that education can take them to successful future.

- **Parenting and raising children style**

Qatari fathers nowadays parenting lifestyle has changed so much.They became focusing on others aspects other than cultures and traditions.They enroll their children in international schools and raise them to be more open to have skills and abilities that makes them stand out.More than that Qatari fathers teach their children to be more accepted to other nationalities and make their friends cycle more open.

The most highest ranking out of five scale is that the father is a good provider and the lowest is responsible paternal engagement.The participants answers indicates that fathers was the main financial support in an eastern family during their childhood and adolescence but when It comes to being around them or solving their homework they are often not there because Its the mom's role.(Ridge,2017)

## Methodology

1

### Participants

fathers/daughters

2

### Data collection

Survey will be distributed among Qatari daughters to ask them about fatherhood and how it has changed after knowledge-based economy. Also, interviews will be done with Qatari fathers to find out how they changed their way of parenting after knowledge based development.

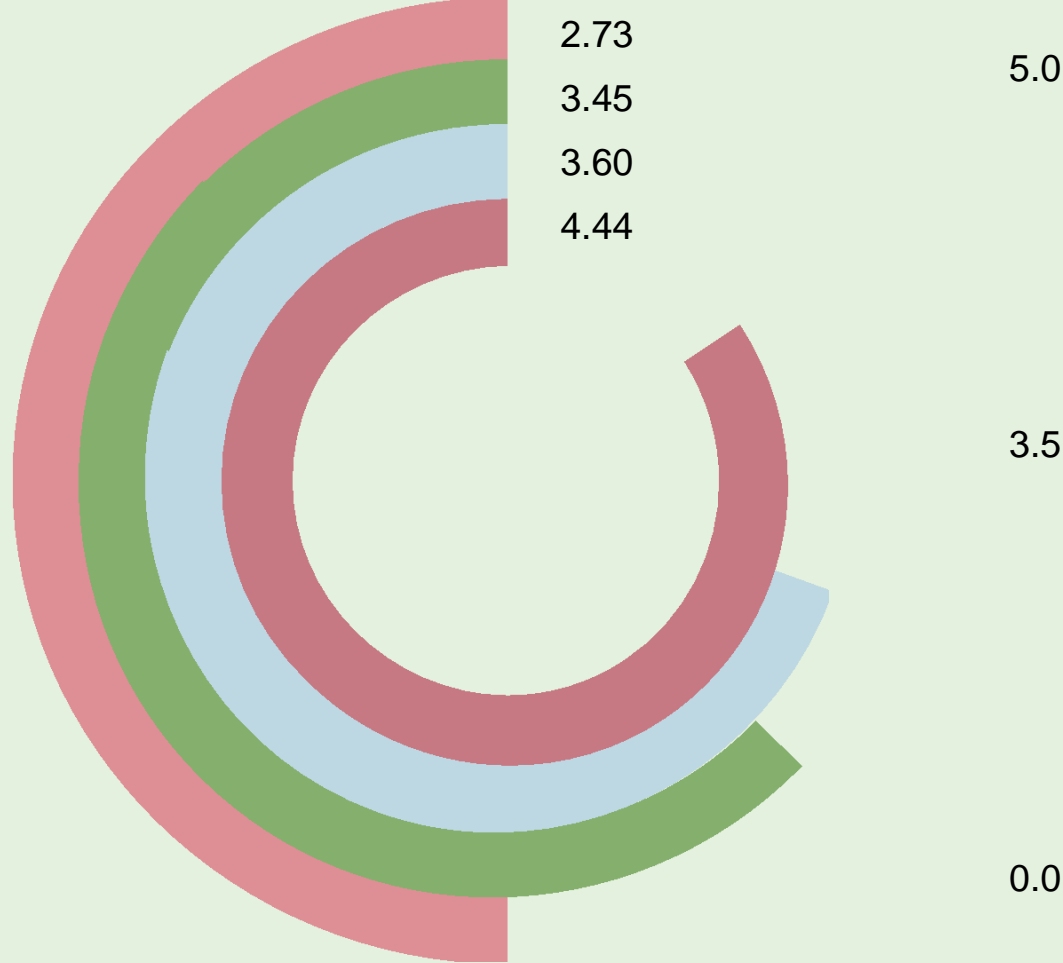
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### Data Analysis /Results

#### We expect the following from our research:

- Qatar community is so attached to their traditions and culture but there is a good percentage who accept positive change in their lifestyles.
- Qatari fathers thinking has impacted due to the globalization and they contributed a lot of the knowledge based economy in Qatar.

Figure 1.Means of positive components of Fatherhood scale



Good provider

Accessible father

Gender role model

Responsible paternal engagement